

Key County Officials Meet to Discuss Vote Counting Machine

At a meeting called this week by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn of key County officials, it was established that there is no need for the County to spend another \$2,000,000 in buying electronic vote counting machines (on top of \$1,000,000 already spent developing the machine over Hahn's opposition) when the job of counting ballots from Los Angeles County can be done better and faster by improving administrative procedures and by establishing regional vote tallying centers.

"By strengthening existing state laws covering the election procedures and by using regional vote tallying centers it will be possible for final results of elections to be known by 7 a.m. the day following elections," Supervisor Hahn declared.

IN ATTENDANCE at the meeting were Registrar of Voters Benjamin S. Hite, his chief assistant James Allison, Chief Administrations Officer L. S. Hollinger, and County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy.

Hahn explained that election board officials in his own precinct and in a number of other precincts in the same area

which he visited last election night all had finished counting the ballots before midnight of election day.

IT WAS pointed out that about half of the precincts had completed their task of counting all the votes on all candidates and issues by about midnight but that the balance of the precincts reported later than that — some as late as 10 o'clock the following morning.

Hite indicated that the major problem in setting up the plan described by Hahn would be in getting the individual precincts — of which there are nearly 12,000 in Los Angeles County — to submit their returns earlier.

HOWEVER, he stated that he felt that a number of improvements could be made which would speed up precinct returns. He pointed out that nearly 60,000 citizens serve on the election boards in Los Angeles County and that final returns are submitted from precincts to his office beginning at about 8 o'clock the evening of the election until noon the following day. The majority of the returns, however, are submitted before 2 a.m. the day

after election. He could not explain why there should be such a wide variance the time it takes the various election boards to complete their count.

IT WAS AGREED by all present that the following changes in the election procedure laid down in the state laws should expedite the counting of ballots in the precincts:

1. Legislation to allow two members of the election board to count ballots. Present law requires all five members of each board to count ballots. If the law is amended it would double the speed of counting the ballots because each precinct would have two teams, instead of one, counting the votes. Hite admitted that many of the precincts are now following this procedure.

2. A provision which would give the Registrar of Voters the power to go beyond adjoining precincts to provide election officials in precincts where there is a shortage of qualified manpower. At present, only adjoining precincts can be used to meet manpower shortage problems. This change would also make it possible for gov-

ernment employees to serve as election board officials where manpower shortages exist.

3. Simplification of the ballot wherever possible — particularly in eliminating from the ballots judges who are unopposed for re-election.

SUPERVISOR Hahn's plan for speeding up the counting of ballots includes the following steps:

1. The voter follows the same procedure as at present — marking his ballot in secret.
2. The precinct election board officials follow the same procedure as at present — starting the counting of ballots after the polls are closed and posting the results outside the door.
3. The precinct results are taken to a regional tallying center where they are tallied. For example, if 10 regional centers are used, it would mean that each center would have to tally up the final vote of about 1,250 precincts on each candidate and each issue.

4. THE TOTAL tally from each regional center would then be sent by special messenger to the Registrar of Voters main office at 808 N. Spring where the regional tallies would be added together for the final results.

Spring Semester Enrollment Data Released by El Camino Officials

Placement requirements and dates for enrollment for the spring semester at El Camino College were outlined this week by Leo Christian, assistant director of registration and records.

New Bag Closure Perfected By West Virginia Pulp Co.

A four-ply kraft tape closure called ImpacTape, which doubles the impact resistance of sewn-end multiwall bags, has been developed by West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co., it was announced today by Victor S. Luke, manager of the company's Multiwall Bag Division.

Luke said the new closure tape minimizes bag breakage at the sewing line, which accounts for 70 per cent of all sewn multiwall bag failures. The company has applied for a patent on the new closure, he said.

The ImpacTape closure consists of a piece of kraft tape, the edges of which have been folded under the sewing line with the needle passing through four layers of the tape, instead of two layers as in the conventional closure. A sewn end normally varies less than 10 per cent, its abil-

ity to absorb shock can vary up to 200 per cent. In other words, while tensile strength can be high, sewn end toughness — the real test — can be low or inadequate.

As a result of these findings, the company's packaging laboratory in Charleston, S. C., worked out a method of using the ImpacTape to register the toughness of a sewn end by duplicating the shocks met under field conditions.

AFTER MONTHS of testing with this device and exhaustive studies of the results, West Virginia was able to pinpoint the problem and come up with the solution—ImpacTape.

Luke said that ImpacTape is now available on all closures made in West Virginia's bag plants and that testing of new modification equipment is now in the final stages. This equipment will make it possible for customers to apply ImpacTape to sewn open mouth bags after filling.

TESTS needed for registration must be completed three days prior to enrollment. Test reservations may be secured in the registration office now.

Two exceptions to provisions for general registration are priority registration and late registration. Full-time students who filed priority cards during the fall semester will be notified by mail of registration hours to be held Dec. 28 and 29 in the Campus Center.

PRIORITY registration for part-time residents enrolled in the fall semester will be held Jan. 3 and 5. Priority registration cards must be secured from the registration office beginning Dec. 12.

Late registration will be held Monday, Jan. 30 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m. This will mark the final day of registration for spring classes. Reservation cards are not required, but required placement tests must be completed three days before registration.

THREE general requirements must be met prior to enrollment. An Associated Student membership fee of \$2.50 is to be paid at the time of registration. New students who enroll in 10 or more units must attend the orientation session in Room 8, Administration Building on Jan. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Placement requirements for full or part-time students begin with the filing of transcripts covering high school or

previous college work.

TESTS INCLUDE the college placement test which must be taken by new students who plan to enroll in 10 or more units or of part-time students planning to transfer to a senior college.

Specialized tests include the English placement test which is required for those who plan to enroll in Business 61, English 1A, foreign language, beginning shorthand and journalism.

Algebra and trigonometry placement tests are required for those who plan to enroll in intermediate algebra, trigonometry, college algebra, commercial algebra, analytical geometry and calculus and elementary statistics.

THE CHEMISTRY placement test must be completed by those who plan to enroll in Chemistry 1A. A grade of "C" in chemistry 3 at El Camino exempts the test requirement. In addition to the test prerequisites for Chemistry 1A include high school chemistry or Chemistry 3 at El Camino and mathematics through trigonometry.

Swimming placement tests are required for those who plan to enroll in any swimming course from beginning to advanced swimming techniques.

Prospective students are reminded by Christian that all placement tests must be completed three days prior to registration and that classes begin Tuesday, Jan. 31.

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